

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CU-04 AID-20 USIA-12 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 PC-15 RSR-01 /100 W

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P 111401 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2008

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 3294

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: YOUTH PARA

REF STATE 70302, 16267, 54661; BUENOS AIRES 3169

I. B. HIGHER PERCENTAGE WEIGHTS WERE ASSIGNED TO THOSE CATEGORIES FROM WHICH LEADERS ARE MOST LIKELY TO EMERGE AND WHO WILL BE IN A POSITION TO AFFECT US INTERESTS IN ARGENTINA. WHILE MOST OF THE LEADERS OF THE JUSTICIALIST PARTY ARE NOT IN THE " YOUTH" CATEGORY, SOME OF ITS NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ARE, AS IS THE STRIDENT PERONIST YOUTH MOVEMENT, THE LATTER IMPERVIOUS TO US INFLUENCE. HOWEVER, YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS FROM ALL PARTIES WILL SEEK INCREASED INFLUENCE WITHIN THEIR MOVEMENTS, AND WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS, MORE YF THEM ARE EXPECTED TO MOVE INTO POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY NOW LARGELY CONTROLLED BY A FORMER GENERATION. THE MILITARY HAS PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN ARGENTINE POLITICS FOR MANY YEARS AND THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THIS WILL CONTINUE TO BE TRUE, IF ONLY TO A LESSER DEGREE. THEREFORE, WITHIN THE POTENTIAL LEADERSHIP DEFINITION ESTABLISHED IN REFTTEL, YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS AND THE MILITARY WILL BE AMONG PRIORITIES ALONG WITH YOUNG BUREAUCRATS, YOUNG LABOR LEADERS, AND UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERS.

I. C. THE ARGENTINE UNIVERSITY MOVEMENT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PRESSURE THE NEW GOVERNMENT O BE MORE NATIONALIST AND THUS " ANTI- IMPERIALIST", AS WELL AS DEMAND A GENERAL MOVEMENT TO THE LEFT. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THESE
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STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO VOTE. THE GREATER IMPACT, HOWEVER, WILL BE FROM THE PERONIST YOUTH WHICH HAD BEEN PUSHING THE SO- CALLED " PEOPLE' S MILITIA" UNTIL RODOLFO GALIMBERTI' S OUSTER BY PERON.

II. B. THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE WEIGHTS ARE GIVEN TO THOSE OBJECTIVES EXPRESSED IN CASP. THE MISSION PLACES STRONG EMPHASIS ON PERSONAL CONTACT, AND IS EVALUATING THIS FACTOR TO ASSURE ACCESS TO FUTURE LEADERSHIP.

III. A. NONE

III. B. NONE

III. C. PEACE CORPS DOES NOT OPERATE IN ARGENTINA.

IV. B. POLITICAL INSTABILITY, INFLATION, AND INCREASING TERRORISM HAVE BEEN THE RECORD FOR THE PAST YEARS. WHILE YOUTH WILL PLAY AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN SOLVING THESE PROBLEMS IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP OF THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL PARTIES REMAINS IN THE HANDS OF AN OLDER GENERATION. THIS SITUATION IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE DURING THE NEXT TWO- THREE YEARS WITH SUBSEQUENT AND GRADUAL TAKE OVER BY NEW LEADERS. THE MISSION WILL UP - DATE ITS PRIORITIES AS CONDITIONS CHANGE.
LODGE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUENOS03294
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730542/aaaaiygk.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <30-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980203
Subject: YOUTH PARA
TAGS: PFOR, n/a
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005